

### III. AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1 and 2. (Canceled)

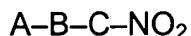
Claim 3. (Withdrawn and Canceled)

Claim 4. (Canceled)

Claims 5 and 6. (Withdrawn and Canceled)

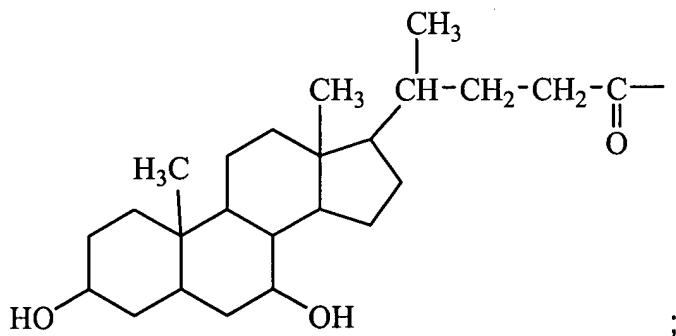
Claims 7 to 12. (Canceled)

Claim 13. (New) A steroidal compound or a salt thereof having the following formula:



wherein:

A is a steroidal drug radical having the formula:

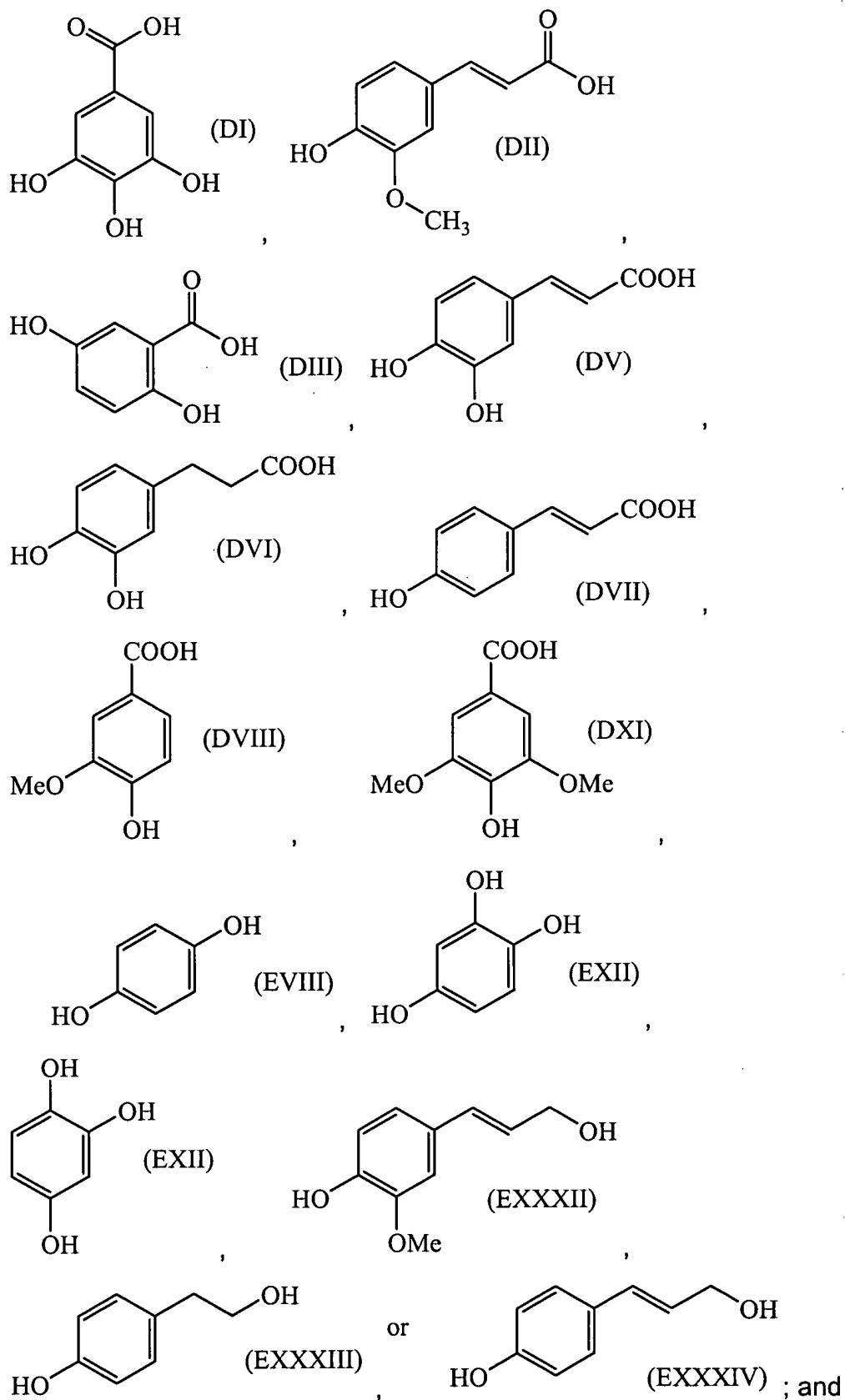


B = -T<sub>B</sub>-X<sub>2</sub>-T<sub>BI</sub>-, wherein:

T<sub>B</sub> is O,

T<sub>BI</sub> is (CO) or O, and

X<sub>2</sub> is a bivalent bridging group such as the corresponding precursor of B, having the formula Z-T<sub>B</sub>-X<sub>2</sub>-T<sub>BI</sub>-Z' in which Z and Z' are independently H or OH, is selected from the following compounds:



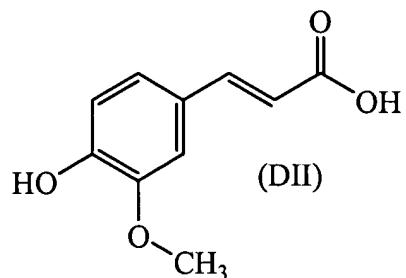
C is the bivalent radical  $-T_C-Y-$ , wherein:

$T_C$  is (CO) when  $T_{BI}$  is O,

$T_C$  is O when  $T_{BI}$  is (CO), and

Y is a linear or branched  $C_1$  to  $C_{20}$  alkylenoxy group or a cycloalkylene, wherein the cycloalkylene has from 5 to 7 carbon atoms, one or more carbon atoms in the cycloalkyleneic ring can be substituted by heteroatoms, and the cycloalkyleneic ring can have methyl side chains.

Claim 14. (New) The steroidal compound or salt thereof according to claim 13, wherein B is



Claim 15. (New) The steroidal compound or salt thereof according to claim 13, wherein Y is a linear or branched  $C_1$  to  $C_6$  alkylenoxy group.

Claim 16. (New) The steroidal compound or salt thereof according to claim 13, wherein A is ursodeoxycholic acid or chenodeoxycholic acid.

Claim 17. (New) The steroidal compounds or salts thereof according to claim 13 selected from 3-[4-[(3 $\alpha$ , 5 $\beta$ , 7 $\beta$ )-3,7-dihydroxycolan-24-oiloy]-3-methoxyphenyl]-2-propenoic acid 4-nitroxybutyl ester or 3-[4-[(3 $\alpha$ , 5 $\beta$ , 7 $\alpha$ )-3,7-dihydroxycolan-24-oiloy]-3-methoxyphenyl]-2-propenoic acid 4-nitroxybutyl ester.

Claim 18. (New) A pharmaceutical formulation comprising the steroidal compound or salt thereof according to claim 13 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

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**Inventor:** Del Soldato  
**Attorney Docket No.:** 026220-00015

**Claim 19. (New)** A method for the treatment of oxidative stress and/or endothelial dysfunctions comprising administering the steroidal compound or salt thereof according to claim 13.